REMARKS

The present amendment is submitted as a supplement to the amendment filed on May 19, 2005 and as a result of the conference held between the Examiner and the Applicant's attorney.

Claims 1-5 and 9 are pending in this application.

In the conference with the Examiner, the Examiner requested that Fig. 1 be amplified to more clearly show how fluid enters and leaves the valve. The Examiner also requested additional explanation as to the process of producing the preform with extrusion coating and the process disclosed in the reference, specifically, the patentable distinction over the claimed extrusion coating and injection molding. The Examiner further requested additional explanation on the differences in structure of the claimed valve over that of the prior art.

With regard to the possible amendment to Fig. 1, the Applicant respectfully submits that any such amendment would be viewed as a broadening of the original disclosure, that is, the addition of new matter. The manner in which fluid flows through the channels can be seen clearly in Figs. 1 and 2. The supply port 18 is connected with the high pressure port. From there, the high pressure impinges the valve closing member 30, which is pressed onto the associated valve seat. Between the supply port 18 and the fluid channel 24, the connection is therefore interrupted. For opening the valve, a ram or slide (not shown) that is impinged by an electromagnet presses against the valve closing member 30, so that this lifts from its seat and fluid flows from the supply port 18

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into the fluid channel 24. At the same time, the fluid channel 26 seals a valve surface of the ram to the return port 20. As can be seen best from Fig. 2, the fluid flowing into the fluid channel 24 passing the sphere 30 can flow off laterally and moves to the consumer port 16. After switching off or disconnection of the electromagnet, the valve closing member closes again and fluid can move from the consumer port 16 to the return port 20.

During the manufacture of the pressure control valve, first the preform 22, shown in slanted hatching in Figs. 1 and 2, is made, which includes the fluid channels and the valve chamber in an injection mold. The manufactured preform then looks as it does in Fig. 4. The valve closing member 30 is inserted into the preform. After this step, this is placed together with the pole core into an injection mold and extrusion coated with the flange 12. Therefore, two injection molding-type processes are performed. The first injection molding process serves for making the preform 22 with all fluid channels and the valve chamber. The second process serves to produce a flange around the preform, whereby the preform is sealingly embedded in the flange.

With regard to the term "injection", there is a difference between "extrusion coasting" and "injection molding". Claim 1 was previously amended to more clearly define that the preform is "extrusion coated" by the flange, that is, coated in such a way that it is sealingly embedded in the flange, as noted above.

The structural difference between the pressure control valve of claim 1 of the present application and the state of the art is that the pressure control valve of claim 1 has a preform, which is made from an injection molding mass in a first

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injection molding method and is extrusion coasted with a flange in a second method. By using these two method steps, the flange is sealingly connected with the preform for the connection of the pressure control valve to external pressure lines. With the completed valve, therefore, the flange is hermetically sealed with the preform in the interior.

In contrast, with the prior art, for example, in the Fleischer reference, the flange is formed with an outer sealing ring 52 on a filter cage, which is slid onto the valve part. Between the filter cage and the valve part, therefore, unsealed regions are formed, through which a fluid can pass out. Thus, with the Fleischer device, pressure oil can move from the port region P to the port region A, as it penetrates through the gap between the filter cage 56 and the valve part 18 in Fig. 1 into the port region. This is not possible with the pressure control valve as defined in claim 1 of the present application.

Based on the marked differences between the present invention and the prior art, as discussed above and in prior amendments, the Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention indeed possesses patentable features that are neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited references. The Applicant therefore respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 over the Najmolhoda and Fle scher references based on the differences noted above.

Again, the Applicant notes the standard for supporting a rejection under Section 102: specifically, the cited reference must disclose each and every feature of the claim with sufficient clarity to prove its existence in the prior art.

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Motorola, Inc. v. Interdigital Tech. Corp., 43 USPQ 2d 1481, 1490 (Fed. Cir. 1997). Here, this standard is not met.

Should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, the undersigned would very much welcome a telephone call in order to discuss appropriate claim language that will place the application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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